

An abstract background graphic featuring a red line graph with several data points and a blue shaded area below it, set against a white background with vertical dashed lines.

Using NASA Data to Enhance Earth Science Education & Make STEM Connections

NSTA 2018, Science on My Mind

Elizabeth Joyner, NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA




Please sit in groups by Grade Band: 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Survey

<https://b.socrative.com/login/student/>

Room ID:

MYNASADATA



The screenshot shows the Socrative login page. At the top is the Socrative logo with the tagline 'by MasteryConnect'. Below this is a 'Student Login' section. It contains a 'Room Name' label and a text input field with 'MYNASADATA' entered. Below the input field is an orange 'Join' button. At the bottom right of the login box is a language selector showing 'English' with a dropdown arrow.



About Me...

Elizabeth Joyner



Goals:

1. Current My NASA Data (MND)
2. MND STEM connection
3. Future MND
4. Engage Prior Knowledge
5. Group Activities: 1.) Beginner Data Cubes -or- 2.) Intermediate Data Cubes
6. Reflect

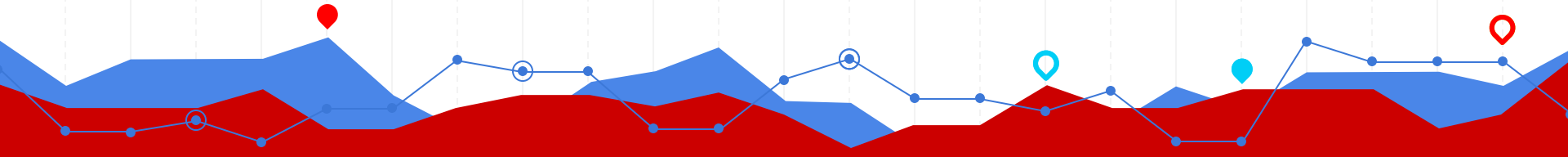
7.





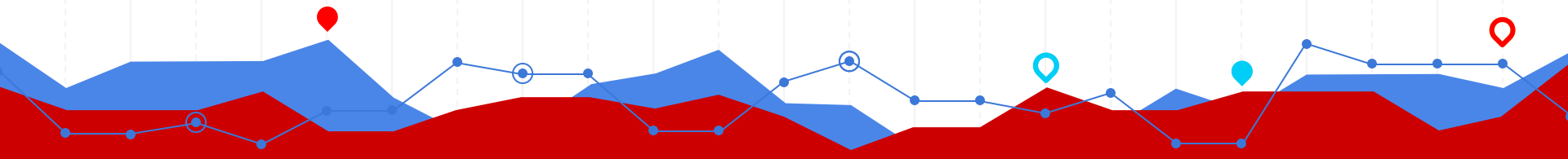
What is My NASA Data?

- ◉ Started in 2004
- ◉ User group- teachers, students, citizen scientists, scientists, & data users
- ◉ Offers Earth Science data, organized by sphere in the Earth System
- ◉ Data Visualization tool - known as a Live Access Server (LAS)
- ◉ Lesson plans illustrate how to use LAS with data sets and graphs

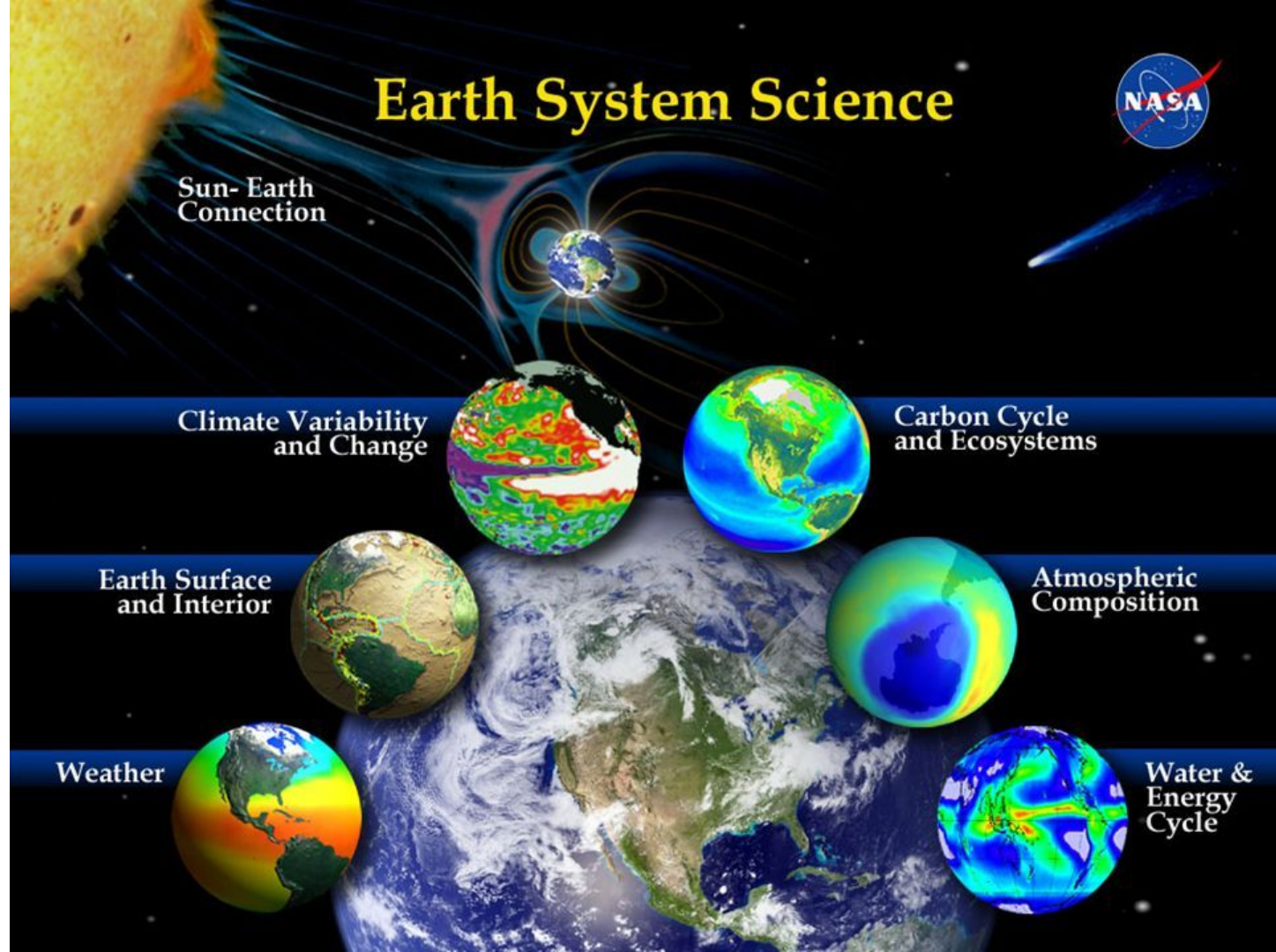




Seeing MND through a STEM Context

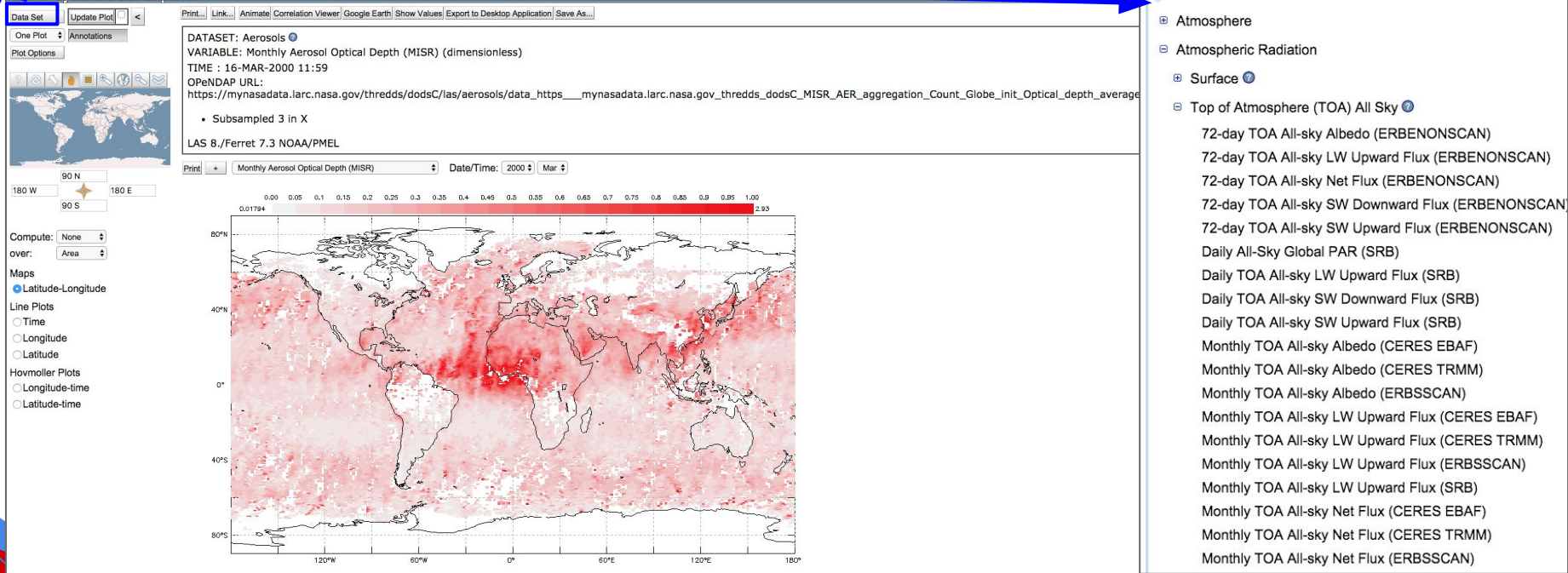


“S” in
STEM -
Earth
System
Science
data

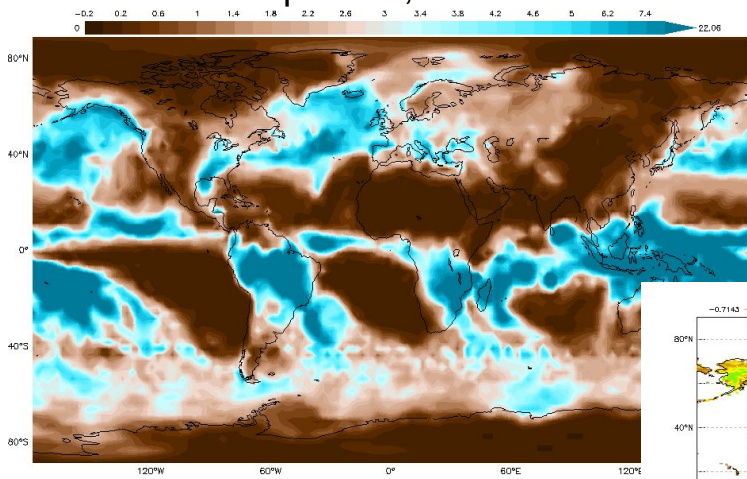


"S" + "T" in STEM - Data Visualization

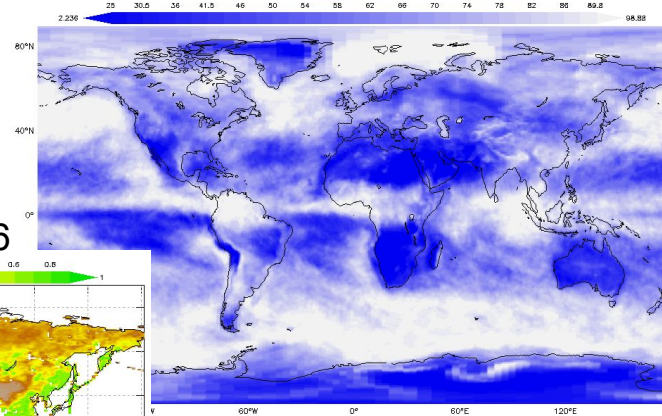
Current Data Visualization Tool - Live Access Server (LAS)



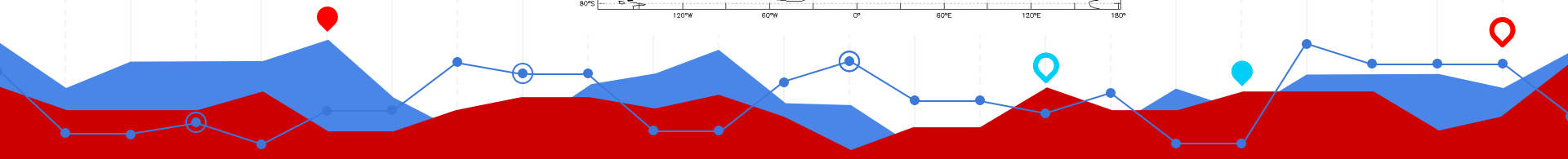
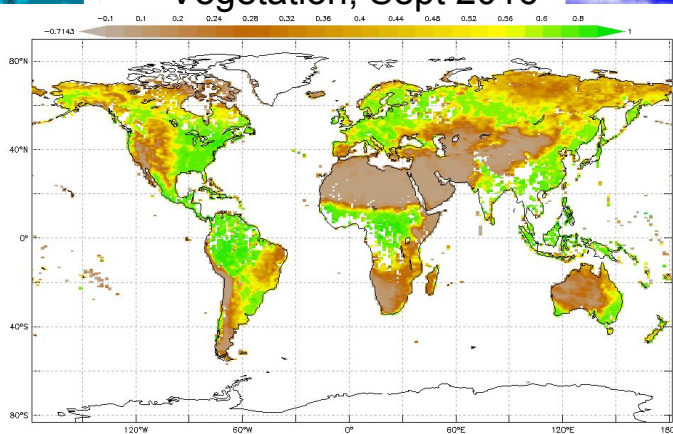
Precipitation, March 2016



Cloud Cover, Sept. 2016

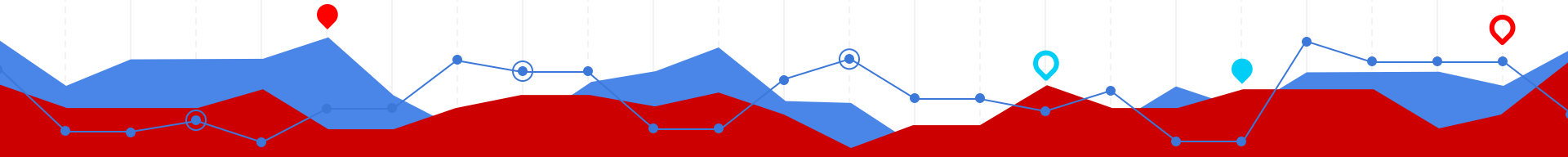


Vegetation, Sept 2016



“E” in STEM- Satellite Data

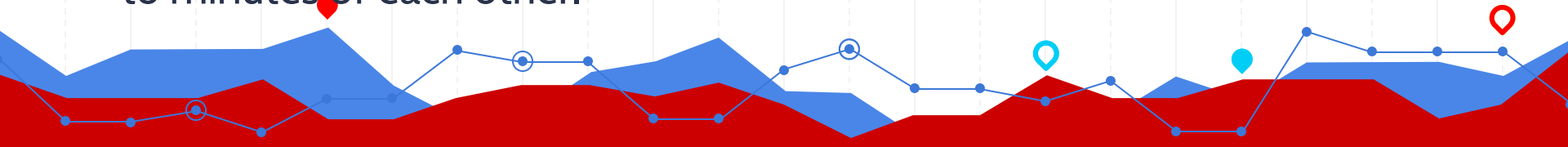
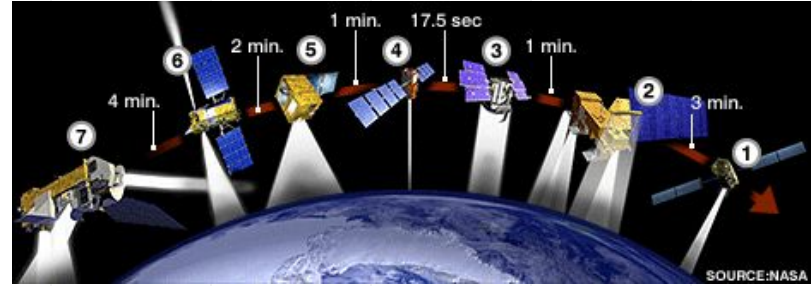
- ❑ MND leverages Earth Science data made available through NASA engineering and technology
 - ❑ ***Does not offer integrated engineering design challenges***
- ❑ Engineering Enables NASA to do Science!
- ❑ Pulls data collected on NASA's A-Train, as well as other satellite missions!



“E” in STEM- Satellite Data

- NASA & International partners
- 6 satellites that fly in a coordinated orbit to collect data on Earth system.
- 15+ scientific instruments
- Satellites on *nearly* same polar orbital “track.”
- Cross the equator northbound at about 1:30 p.m. local time, within seconds to minutes of each other.

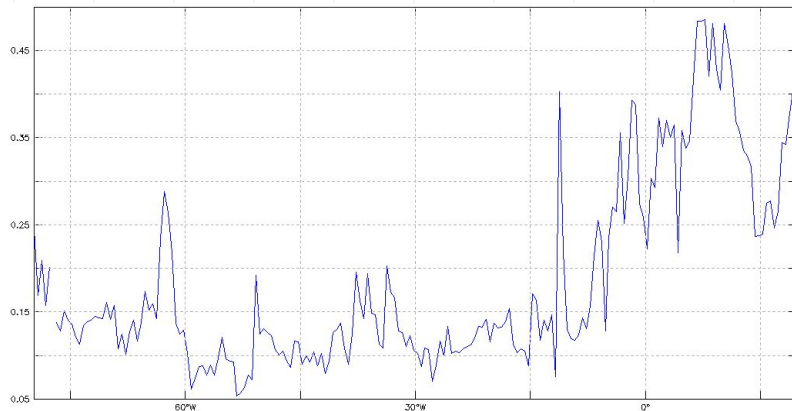
Afternoon Train



“M” in STEM- Mathematics & Data Literacy

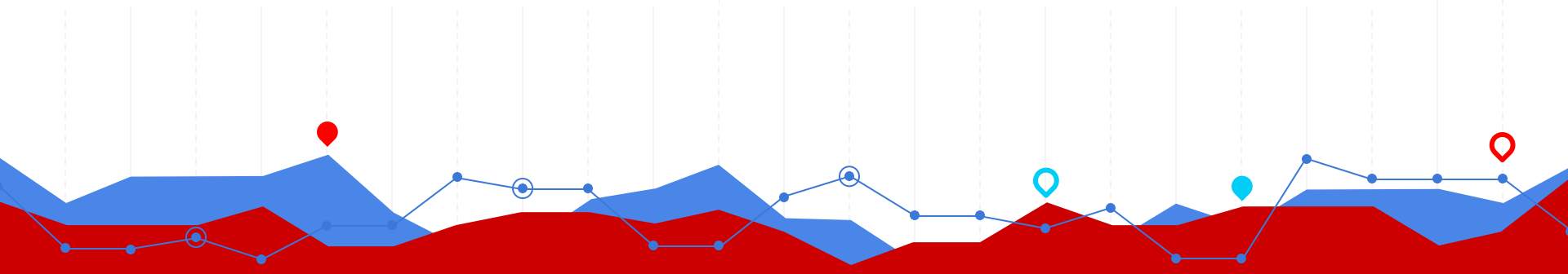
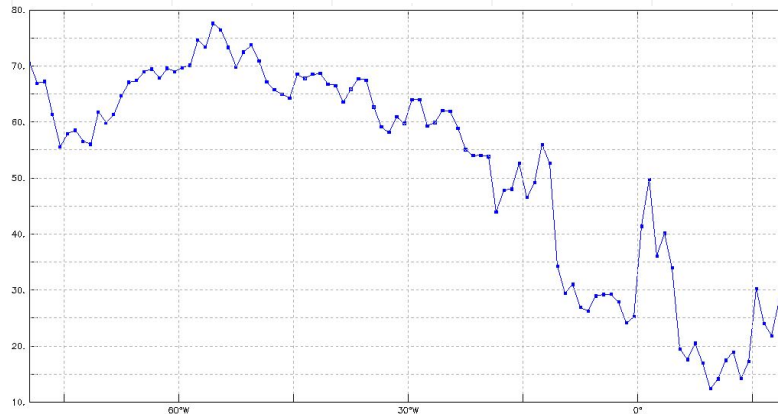
Monthly Aerosol Optical Depth (MISR)
(dimensionless)

LATITUDE : 28.8N, 16-APR-2015 00:00



Monthly Cloud Coverage (CERES) (percent)

LATITUDE : 28.8N, 16-APR-2015 00:00



Evaluation & Insights

Review by [Christie Thomas](#), Common Sense Education | Updated March 2015



MY NASA DATA

NASA satellite data + teacher support yields serious inquiry resource

Subjects & skills >

Grades ⓘ

2-12

Visit website

Common Sense says (See details)

Teachers say (0)



NGSS @OfficialNGSS · Jan 31

Poll for #Science educators: What would be most helpful for you as you implement the #NGSS? (Or reply if you think its something else!)

20% Professional development

57% Aligned lessons/units

23% High-quality assessments

330 votes • Final results

Pros: Access real satellite data for free in the classroom.

Cons: Interfacing with the Live Access Server and interpreting its data may feel intimidating, even for many educators.

Bottom Line: The value of the resource outweighs the challenges, so grab your coffee, a colleague, and your thinking cap and dive in.



Formal evaluations from educators underscore these informal insights.

Pros: Access real satellite data for free in the classroom.

Cons: Interfacing with the Live Access Server and interpreting its data may feel intimidating, even for many educators.

Bottom Line: The value of the resource outweighs the challenges, so grab your coffee, a colleague, and your thinking cap and dive in.






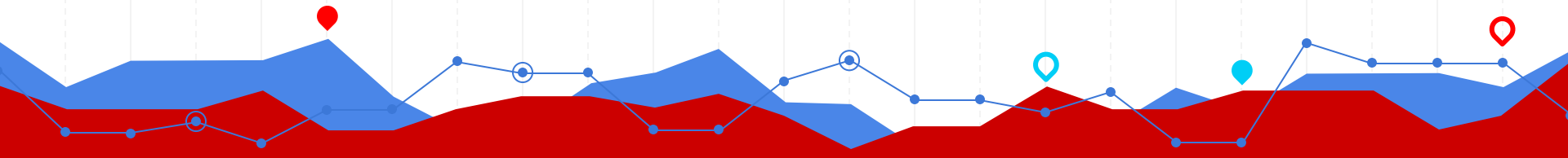
Time for
Change



Identify and Focus on Teachers' Needs

Dedicated to helping teachers of **grades 3-12** teach Earth System phenomenon using NASA Earth System data

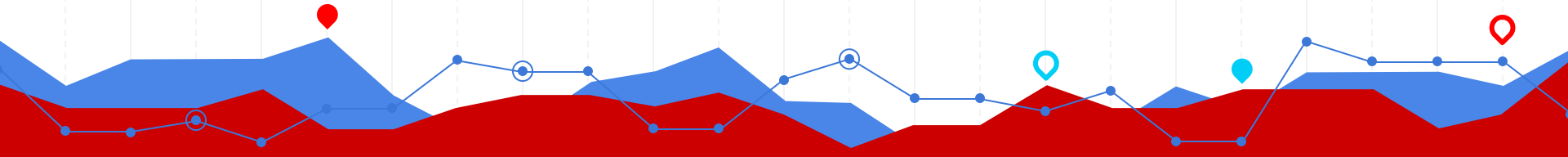
-  Pulling resources from a variety of NASA visualizations
-  Organizing resources by Earth System phenomenon
-  Prepackaging Maps & Data = “Just in Time”



Tell A Story...

Identify what stories need to be told:

- NGSS-inspired tools to:
 - structure of phenomenon
 - systems approach
 - spatial and temporal scales
 - leveraging GLOBE activities and protocols



MND Supports NGSS IN YOUR CLASSROOM

Science & Engineering Practices

Crosscutting Concepts

Disciplinary Core Ideas



Science and Engineering Practices

1. Asking Questions (for science) and Defining Problems (for engineering)
2. Developing and Using Models
3. Planning and Carrying Out Investigations
4. Analyzing and Interpreting Data
5. Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking
6. Constructing Explanations (for sci) and Designing Solutions (for eng)
7. Engaging in Argument from Evidence
8. Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information

Disciplinary Core Ideas

PHYSICAL SCIENCES

PS1: Matter and Its Interactions

PS2: Motion and Stability: Forces and Interactions

PS3: Energy

PS4: Waves and Their Applications in Technologies for Information Transfer

LIFE SCIENCES

LS1: From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes

LS2: Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics

LS3: Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits

LS4: Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCES

ESS1: Earth's Place in the Universe

ESS2: Earth's Systems

ESS3: Earth and Human Activity

ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY, AND APPLICATIONS OF SCIENCE

ETS1: Engineering Design

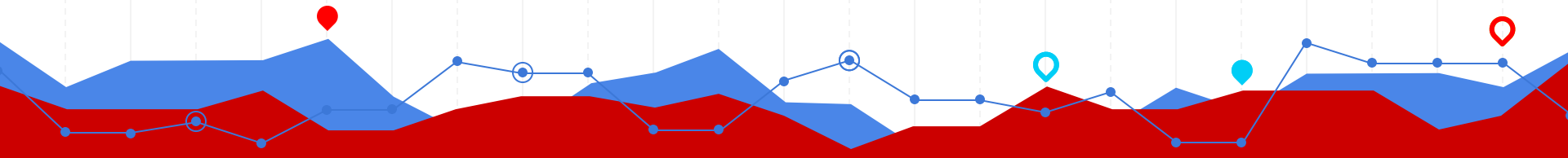
ETS2: Links Among Engineering, Technology, Science, and Society

Crosscutting Concepts

1. Patterns
2. Cause and Effect: Mechanisms and Explanation
3. Scale, Proportion, and Quantity
4. Systems and System Models
5. Energy and Matter: Flows, Cycles, and Conservation
6. Structure and Function
7. Stability and Change

Core Inquiries Supported by MND

- ★ Exploring an Earth System Variable over Space and Time
- ★ Exploring Relationships between & among Variables





Atmosphere

Lorem ipsum dolor sit
amet tempus fugit
semper fidelis.



FEATURED LESSON

Basic Line Plots



MAPS AND DATA

Aerosol Data

What is My NASA Data?

The collection of My NASA Data lesson plans is intended to provide the educator with a variety of specific examples, incorporating a more “teacher-directed” strategy, of how authentic satellite data can be integrated to the curriculum.



Access the MND  Data Visualization



Atmosphere – Featured Lessons

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Aenean euismod bibendum laoreet. Proin gravida dolor sit amet lacus accumsan et viverra justo commodo. Proin sodales pulvinar tempor. Uber ad sociis natoque penatibus et magnis dis parturient montes, nascetur ridiculus mus. Nam fermentum, nulla luctus pharetra vulputate.

Featured Lessons

Maps & Data

STEM Career Connections

GLOBE Connections

Basic Line Plots

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Laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit.

● ○ ○ ○ ○ See All >



Recent Topics



Hurricanes: What Are They?

4/15/2018

Atmosphere, Teaching, K-6



How the Water Cycle Works

3/25/2018

Hydrosphere, Teaching, K-6



Clouds Affecting Temperature

3/22/2018

Atmosphere, Teaching, K-6

DRAFT

DRAFT

Lesson Plans

Learning Progressions (K2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12)

Atmosphere Learning Progression Grades 3-5: GLOBE Protocols Aligned with NASA Resources and NGSS Standards

NGSS Disciplinary Core Ideas Progression of Learning: Building on concepts developed in grades K-2 that focused on weather patterns, student will examine the relationship associated with how patterns of typical weather conditions over different time scales can be used to describe climate scientists use satellite data to analyze historical weather patterns to answer questions related to climate and typical weather patterns. By incorporating and My NASA Data in the classroom educators provide students with the ability to collect data while connecting with NASA scientists and access to answer their own questions related to atmospheric interactions that affect the weather and climate where they live.

Performance Expectations:

- 3-ESS2-1 Represent data in tables and graphical displays to describe typical weather conditions expected during a particular season.
- 3-ESS2-2 Obtain and combine information to describe climates in different regions of the world.
- 5-ESS2-1 Develop a model using an example to describe ways the geosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and/or atmosphere interact.

Science Practices:

- Analyzing and Interpreting Data: Represent data in tables and various graphical displays (bar graphs and pictographs) to reveal patterns that indicate relationships.
- Developing and Using Models: Develop a model using an example to describe a scientific principle.
- Obtaining, Evaluating and Communicating Information: Obtain and combine information from books and other reliable media to explain phenomena.

Disciplinary Core Idea:

ESS2.D Weather and Climate: Scientists record patterns of the weather across different times and areas so that they can make predictions about what kind of weather might happen next.

ESS2.A Earth Materials and Systems: Earth's major systems are the geosphere (solid and molten rock, soil, and sediments), the hydrosphere (water and ice), the atmosphere (air), and the biosphere (living things, including humans).

Crosscutting Concept:

- Patterns: Patterns can be used to predict.
- Systems and Systems Models: A system can terms of its components and their interactions.

GLOBE Alignment: Environmental observations, data collection and learning activities to develop Earth science concepts

Atmosphere Protocols:

- [Air Temperature](#)
- [Clouds](#)
- [Surface Temperature](#)
- [Precipitation](#)

Data Investigation Sheets:

- [Atmosphere Investigation Integrated 1-Day](#)
- [Atmosphere Investigation Clouds 1-Day](#)
- [Atmosphere Investigation Surface Temperature](#)

Elementary GLOBE Book:

- [Do You Know That Clouds Have Names?](#)
- [What's Up in the Atmosphere? Exploring Colors in the Sky](#)
- [What in the World is Happening to Our Climate?](#)

GLOBE Learning Activities: (Learning activities can be used to develop concepts associated with the NGSS Performance Expectations.)

- [Observing, Describing and Identifying Clouds](#) (3-ESS2-1)
- [Estimating Cloud Cover](#) (3-ESS2-1)
- [Cloud Watch](#) (3-ESS2-1)
- [Cloudscape](#) (3-ESS2-1)
- [Land, Water, and Air](#) (5-ESS2-1)
- [Making a Climograph](#) (3-ESS2-2)
- [C1: From Weather to Climate-Looking at Air Temperature Data](#) (3-ESS2-1, 3-ESS2-2)
- [What Can We Learn About Our Seasons?](#) (3-ESS2-1, 3-ESS2-2)
- [Sky Observers](#) (3-ESS2-1)

Guiding Question(s):

- How is weather seasons?
- What type of associated weather seasons in the you live? How does this compare to climates in other regions around the world?
- Describe the interactions of matter and energy occurring between the atmosphere and geosphere, Atmosphere and biosphere? Atmosphere and hydrosphere?

NASA Resource: Data and lessons drawn from NASA's Earth science research program

NASA Learning Activities:

- [NASA Climate Change Educational Modules](#)
- [NASA's Climate Kids:](#)
- [NASA Wavelength 3-5 Learning Activities List](#)

MY NASA DATA Live Access Server Data Visualization Tool: Earth System Data Explorer:

My NASA Data Variable Suggestions:
Air Temperature: [Monthly Near-Surface Air Temperature \(ISCCP\)](#)
Clouds: [Monthly Cloud Coverage \(CERES TERRA\)](#)
Surface Temperature: [Monthly Surface Skin Temperature \(CERES\)](#)
Precipitation: [Monthly Precipitation \(GPCP\)](#)

NASA Lessons:

- [Climate Graphs](#) (3-ESS2-1)
- [Cloudy vs Clear](#) (3-ESS2-1)
- [Reading Bar Graphs](#) (3-ESS2-1)



My NASA Data

K-2: Creating Bar Graphs

Purpose: Graphs help make counting and comparing meaningful, especially for visual learners as their number sense develops. In this lesson, students use authentic temperature data from NASA's satellites to practice creating bar graphs, as well as using data as evidence when developing claims. Note: This lesson is not recommended as the first introduction students have to the concept of graphing but recommended in the later stage of instruction on graphing.

Lesson Plan

Grade Level:	K-2	Lesson Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will create a bar graph using temperature data taken from NYC during 2015. Students will make observations and inferences of graphed data. Students will make claims about what clothing would be most appropriate for winter considering the weather graph. Students will cut and paste clothing that would best be for the outside temperatures on the bar graph. 	Sphere(s):	Atmosphere
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My NASA Data

3-5: Observing Earth's Seasonal Changes

Purpose: In this lesson, Observing Earth's Seasonal Changes, students observe patterns of average error and ice amounts as they change from one month to another, as well as connect the concepts of the tilt and orbit of the Earth (causing the changing of seasons) with monthly snowfall data from January 2000 to June 2008.

Lesson Plan

Grade Level:	3-5	Lesson Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will be able to use evidence to create an explanation. The students will be able to construct a graph or model. The students will be able to describe expected weather for a particular month. The students will be able to describe unexpected weather for a particular month. The students will be able to describe observations in one phenomenon. 	Sphere(s):	Atmosphere
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My NASA Data

6-8: Using Precipitation and Vegetation to Study Climate Zones

Purpose: Scientists are interested in learning how the vegetation (collection of plants) of an area can be used to study Earth's climate. In this lesson, students observe average values of global precipitation and vegetation over the course of one month using NASA visualizations created from satellite data. Students investigate possible relationships between the vegetation and precipitation.

Lesson Plan

Grade Level:	6-8	Lesson Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students observe and analyze monthly precipitation and vegetation values from 2015. The students make a climograph graph, the real geographic analysis tool in the distribution of precipitation and vegetation in a global scale. The students analyze locations of their study precipitation and vegetation between precipitation and vegetation. 	Sphere(s):	Atmosphere
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My NASA Data

9-12: Tropical Atlantic Aerosols & Cloud Cover

Purpose: Students will use NASA satellite data to determine the location of the greatest concentrations of aerosols during the course of a year in the tropical Atlantic region and their relationship to cloud cover.

Lesson Plan

Grade Level:	9-12	Lesson Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe aerosols and their sources in the Earth System. Analyze aerosol data and determine the relationship between aerosols and cloud cover. Describe the relationship between aerosols and cloud cover. Describe a data visualization product relationship of aerosols to cloud cover. Other students will be able to make a claim and provide evidence to support the claim. 	Sphere(s):	Atmosphere
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My NASA Data

9-12: Tropical Atlantic Aerosols & Cloud Cover

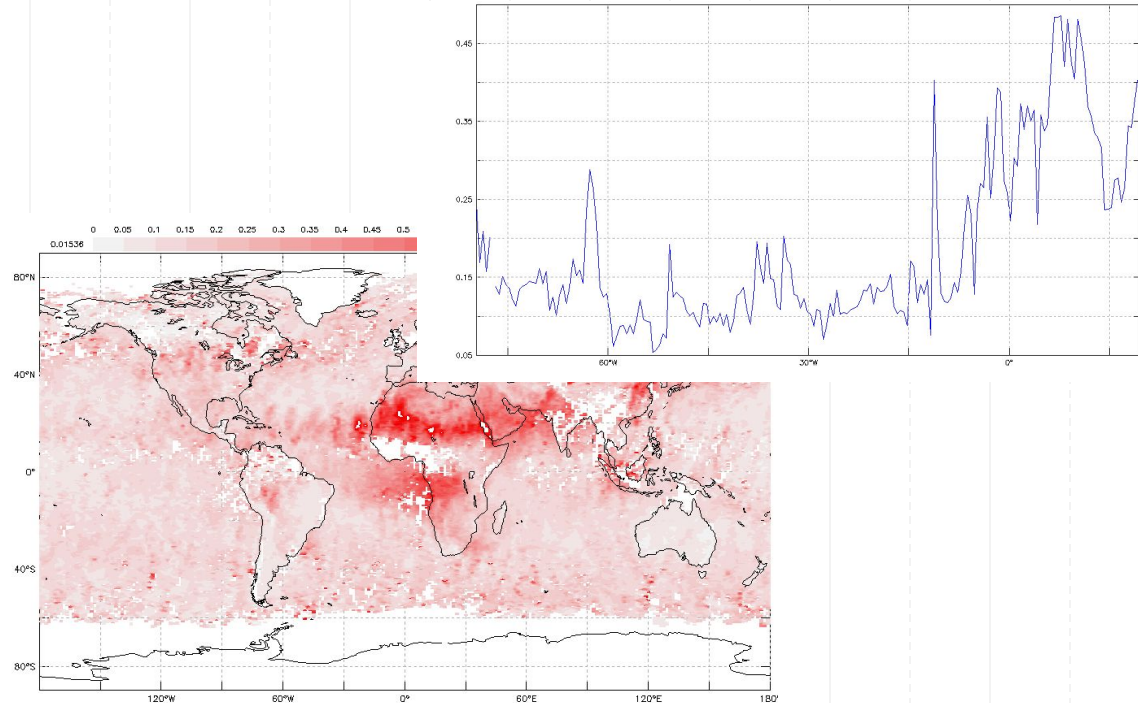
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Lesson Plan

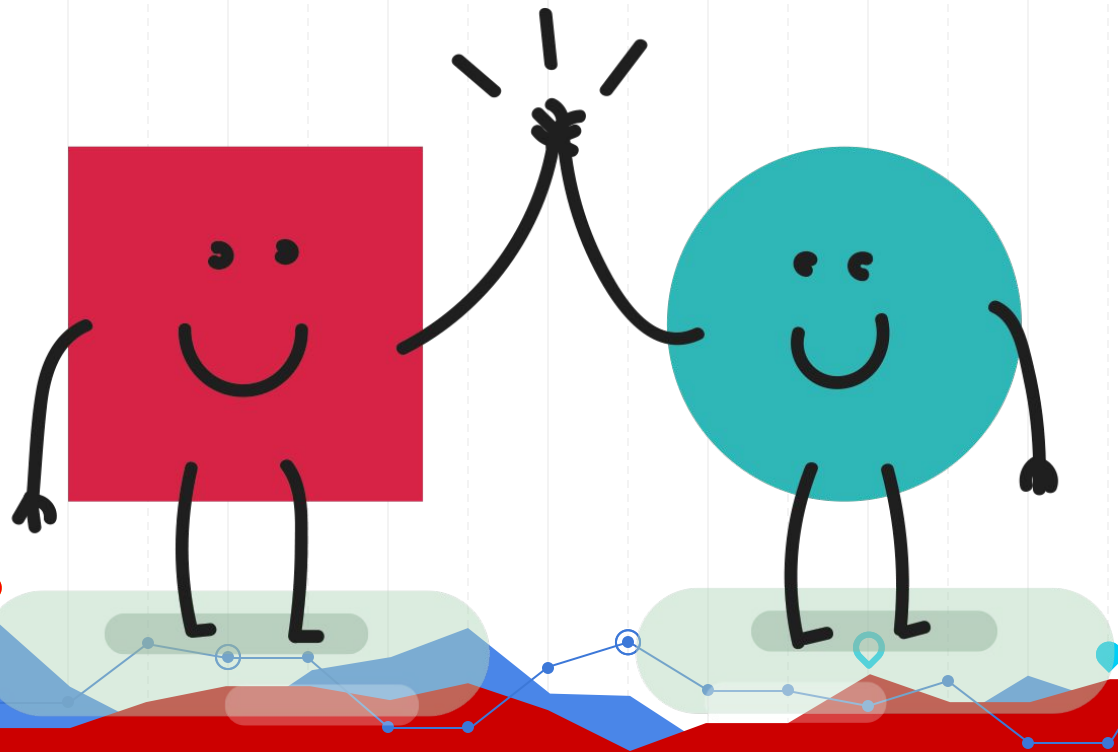
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Preloaded & Organized by Sphere/Phenomenon

15-Jan-2016	37.4
15-Feb-2016	42.1
15-Mar-2016	58.7
15-Apr-2016	62.4
15-May-2016	67.8
15-Jun-2016	77.1
15-Jul-2016	81.0
15-Aug-2016	79.9
15-Sep-2016	75.1
15-Oct-2016	64.7
15-Nov-2016	53.8
15-Dec-2016	43.8
15-Jan-2017	45.0
15-Feb-2017	51.7



Group Work!



Seasons Phenomenon

1. **Identify the Earth Science variables affecting Seasons.**
Put individual variables on a Post-It. (One Post-it per idea.)
 - a. Put up at the front of the board in the different spheres of the Earth System
2. Share out.





Earth System Variables Defined

Monthly Surface Skin Temperature is the temperature on the surface of the Earth (its “skin”), where humans, plants, and animals live. Monthly average of the temperature on the surface of the Earth (not the air temperature near the surface).

Beginner
Map

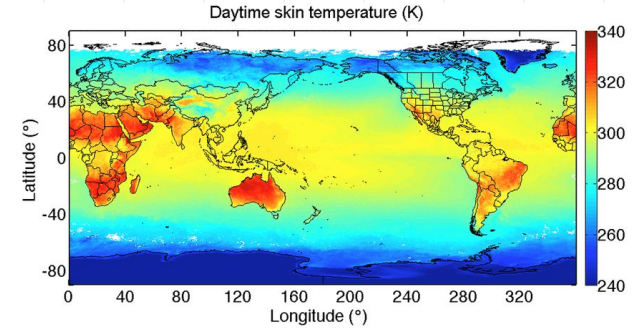
Intermediate
Graph

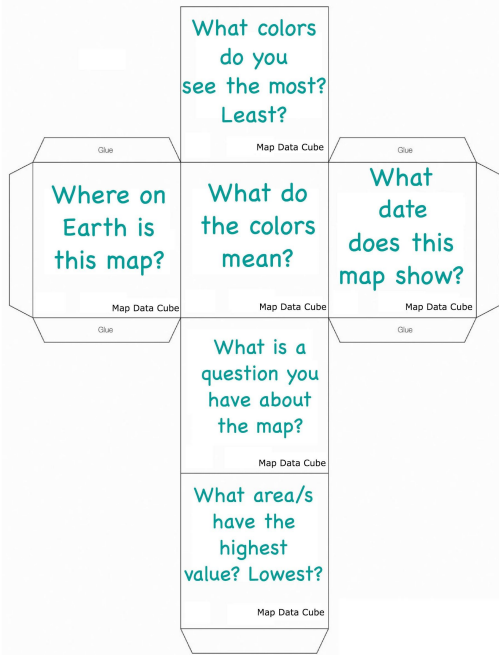
Leaf Area Index (LAI) is an unitless quantity that characterizes plant canopies.

$LAI = \text{leaf area} / \text{ground area}, m^2 / m^2$

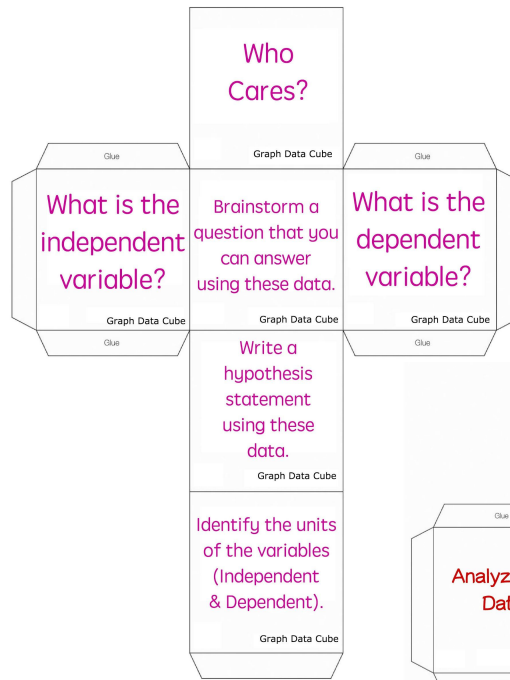
0 (bare ground) - over 10 (dense conifer forests).

Intermediate
Graph

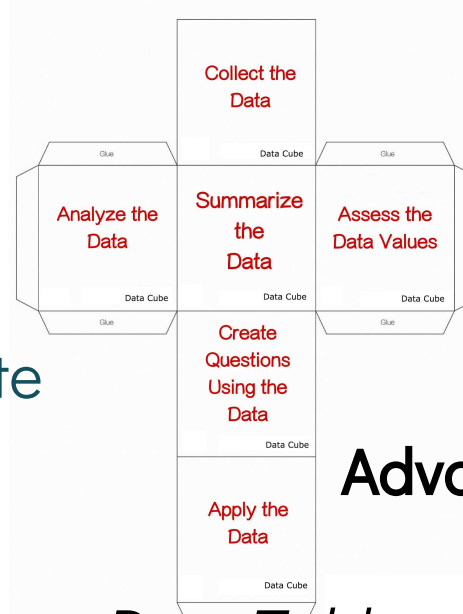




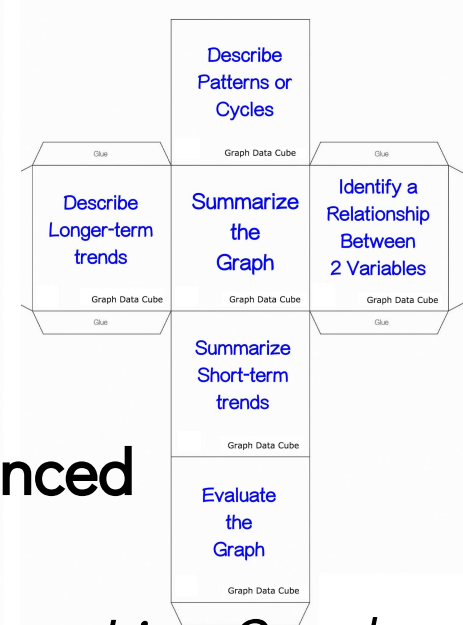
Beginner *Map*



Intermediate *Graph*



Data Table



Advanced

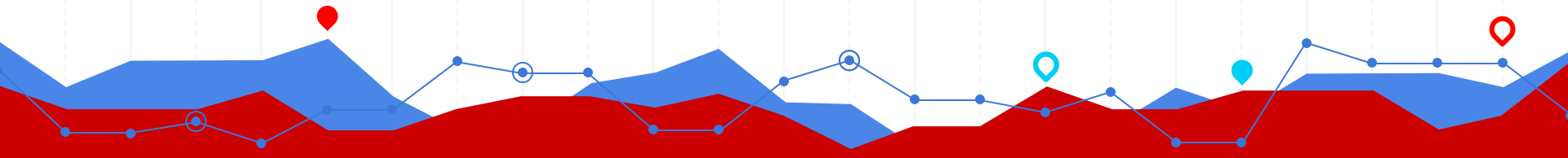
Line Graph

Data Literacy Activity

Beginner Activity - Analyze three mapped images of Surface Skin Temperature using the Beginner Map Cube

Intermediate Group - Analyze graphs (2010-2017) for the following datasets using the Intermediate Graph Cube:

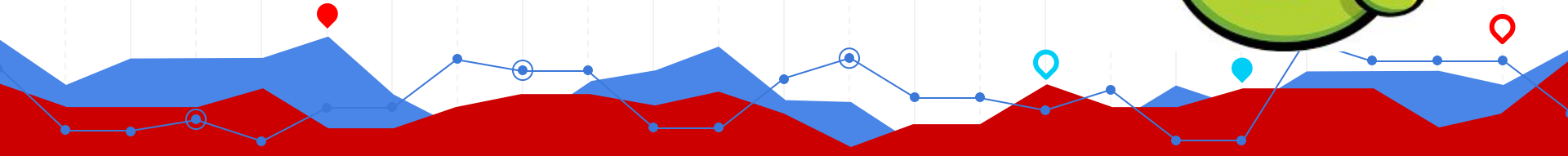
- Average Surface Temperature
- Leaf Area Index



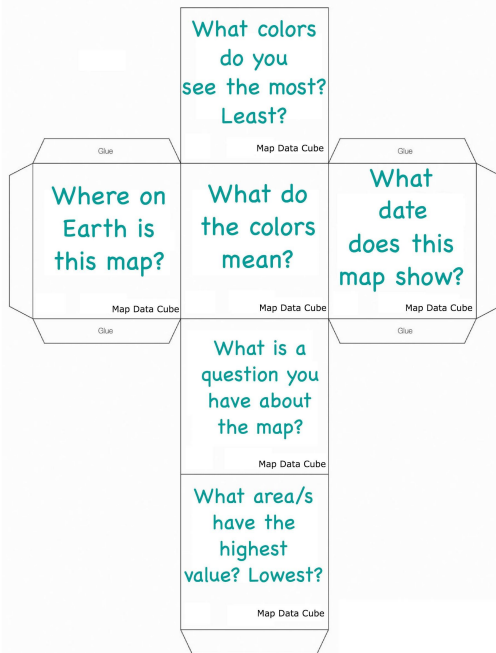
As you move through the activity, think of the following:

Setting students up for success:

1. What modifications may you want to make?
2. What should students be doing? How will they demonstrate success?
3. How do we measure success?




Beginner Cube: Monthly Surface Skin Temperature (Celsius)



Beginner
Map

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



★ Map Data Cube Questions ★

What colors do you see the most? Least?

1. What color seems to show the most? What does this mean?
2. What color do you not see very much? What does this mean?

Where on Earth is this map?

1. What (hemisphere/continent/country/state/city) do you see?
2. Is your school shown on the map? If so, where is it?

What do the colors mean?

1. What science variable is shown by the range of colors?
2. The color with the biggest value/number is _____.
3. The color with the smallest value/number is _____.
4. The color in the middle is _____. Its value is _____.

What areas of the map have the highest value? Lowest?

1. What area/s have the highest values? What does this mean?
2. What area/s have the lowest values? What does this mean?
3. What date/s does this map represent?

When was the data on this map collected?

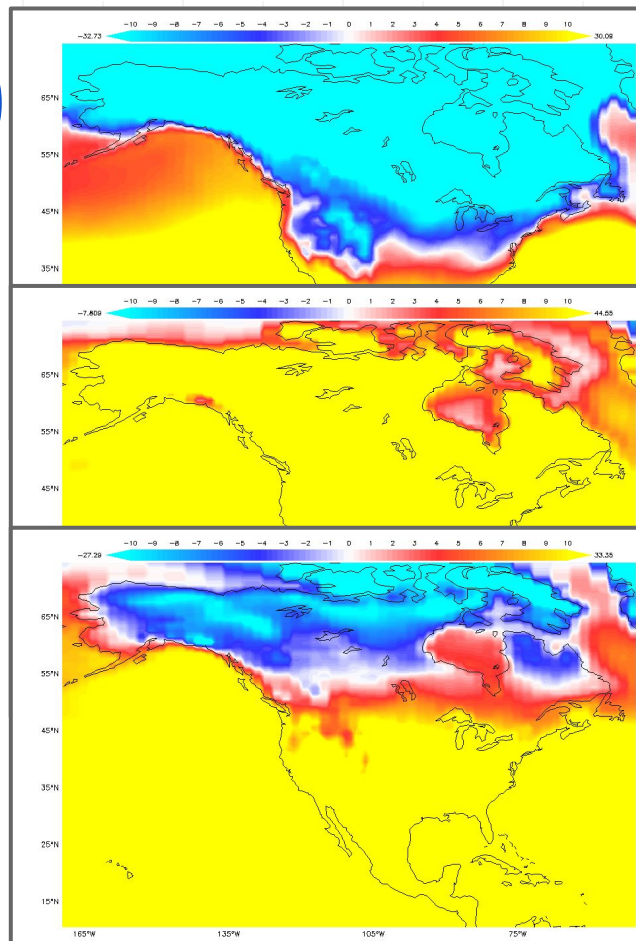
1. What date/s are represented on this map?
2. What word is found with the title? daily, weekly, monthly, yearly.

What question/s do you have about the map?

1. How does...?
2. I wonder if ...?
3. How is _____ the same as? Different than?
4. How many...? How long...? How often...?

Beginner Edition

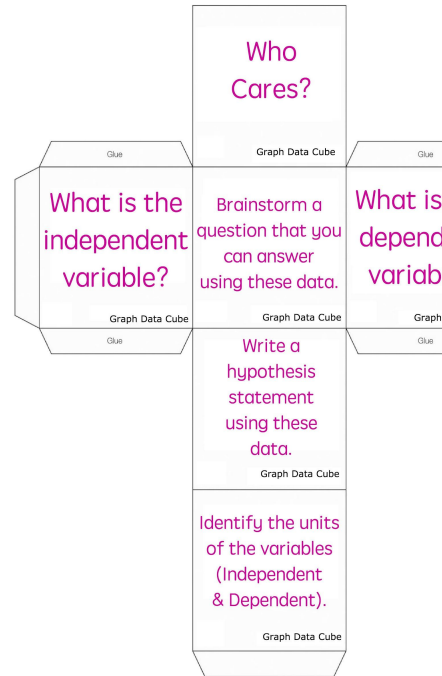
www.nasa.gov



Intermediate Cube

Interpret two graphs:

1. Average Surface Temp (F) vs. Date (2010-2017) (Atlanta, GA Lat: 33.74N, Long: 84.38W)
2. Leaf Area Index vs. Date (2010-2017) (Atlanta, GA Lat: 33.74N, Long: 84.38W)



Intermediate Graph

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

★ **Graph Data Cube Questions** ★

Who Cares?

1. Brainstorm who would be interested in the data presented in this graph (i.e., farmers, snow skiers, etc.).
2. Why do you think these data are important to this community?

What is the Independent Variable?

1. How does the amount of this variable affect the dependent variable?
2. What variable is causing the change?
3. What is the range of the values of this variable?

What is the dependent variable?

1. What variable changes as a result of being dependent upon a different one?
2. What is the range of the values of this variable?

Brainstorm a question that you can answer using these data.

1. How does...?
2. I wonder if ...?
3. How is _____ the same as? Different than?
4. How many...?
5. How long...?
6. How often...?

Write a hypothesis statement using these data.

1. Write a testable statement about the two variables that offers an explanation of what happened in the past to explain our what we observe. (e.g., "If _____, then _____.")

Characterize the Graph.

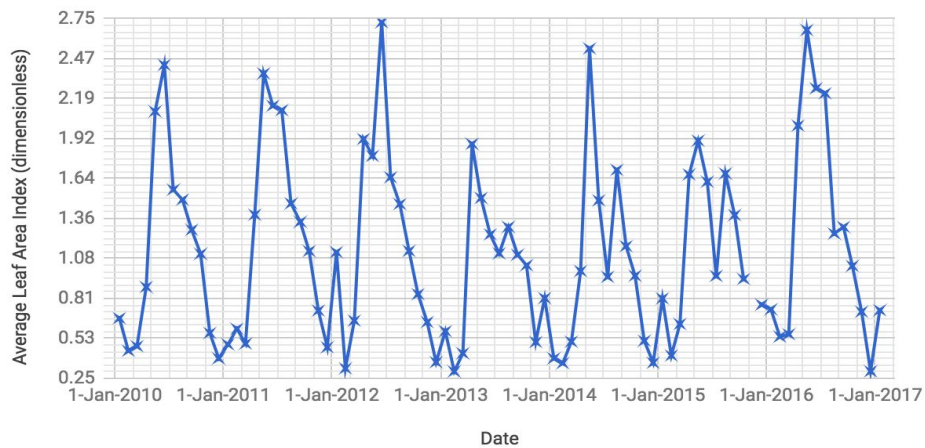
1. What are the labels of the two axes?
2. What are the scales of the two axes?
3. Identify the units of the two variables.

Intermediate Edition

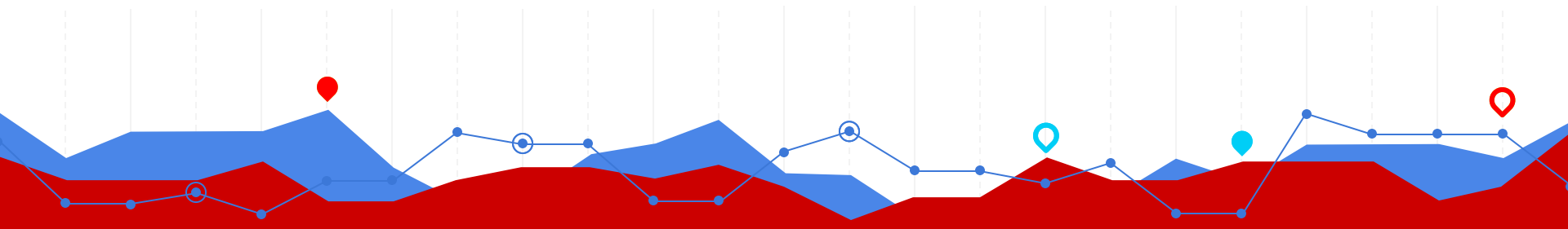
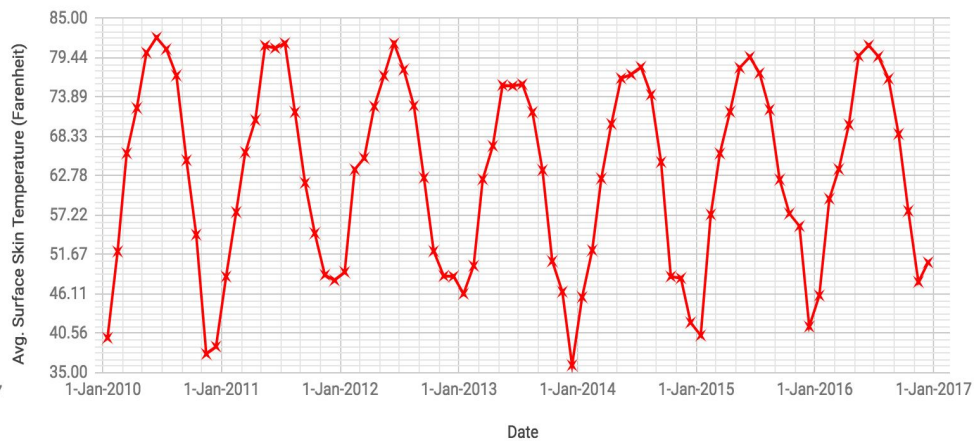
www.nasa.gov

Interpret two graphs:

Average Leaf Area Index for Atlanta, GA (2010 - 2017)



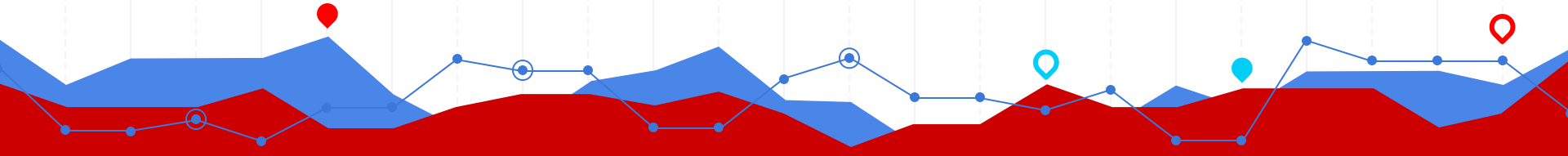
Monthly Average Surface Skin Temperature for Atlanta, GA (2010 - 2017)



Share Out

Setting students up for success:

- What should students be doing?
- How do we measure success?
- What modifications may you want to make?



Avoid This...



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